

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF: VISHNU K. AGARWAL AND
DINESH CHOPRA

FILED: CONCURRENTLY HEREWITH

FOR: **METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR
FORMING A PLANARIZING PAD FOR
PLANARIZATION OF
MICROELECTRONIC SUBSTRATES**

**Information Disclosure Statement Within Three Months of
Application Filing or Before First Action – 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)**

Mail Stop Patent Application
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

1. Timing of Submission

This information disclosure is being filed within three months of the filing date of this application or date of entry into the national stage of an international application or before the mailing date of a first Office action on the merits, whichever occurs last [37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)]. The references listed on the enclosed Form PTO-1449 (modified) may be material to the examination of this application; the Examiner is requested to make them of record in the application.

2. Cited Information

- Copies of the following references are enclosed:
 - References marked by two asterisks
- This application was filed after 30 June 2003 and no copies of U.S. patents nor published applications are enclosed (See Notice of Deputy Commissioner Kunin on 11 July 2003).

3. Effect of Information Disclosure Statement (37 C.F.R. § 1.97(h))

This Information Disclosure Statement is not to be construed as a representation that: (i) a search has been made; (ii) additional information material to the examination of this application does not exist; (iii) the information, protocols,

results and the like reported by third parties are accurate or enabling; or (iv) the cited information is, or is considered to be, material to patentability. In addition, applicant does not admit that any enclosed item of information constitutes prior art to the subject invention and specifically reserves the right to demonstrate that any such reference is not prior art.

4. Fee Payment

No fees are believed due because this Information Disclosure Statement is being filed before the mailing date of the first Office Action.

However, should the Commissioner determine that fees are due in order for this Information Disclosure Statement to be considered, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge such fees to Deposit Account No. 50-0665.

Respectfully submitted,
Perkins Coie LLP



David T. Dutcher
Registration No. 51,638

Date: February 5, 2004

Correspondence Address:

Customer No. 25096
Perkins Coie LLP
P.O. Box 1247
Seattle, Washington 98111-1247
(206) 359-8000

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT Form PTO-1449 (Modified) (Use several sheets if necessary)				COMPLETE IF KNOWN	
Sheet	1	of	7	Application Number	
				Confirmation Number	
				Filing Date	February 5, 2004
				First Named Inventor	Vishnu K. Agarwal
				Group Art Unit	
				Examiner Name	
				Attorney Docket No.	108298404US1

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials*	Cite No.	U.S. Patent or Application		Name of Patentee or Inventor of Cited Document	Date of Publication or Filing Date of Cited Document
		NUMBER	Kind Code (if known)		
	**	U.S. Application No. 09/649,429 (Attorney Docket No. 10829.8404US)		Agarwal et al.	Filed 08/28/2000
	**	U.S. Application No. 09/649,427 (Attorney Docket No. 10829.8511US)		Meikle	Filed 08/28/2000
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		5,616,069		Walker et al.	04/01/1997
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EXAMINER				DATE CONSIDERED	

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not criteria is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to application(s).

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		NUMBER	Kind Code (if known)			
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		5,830,806		Hudson et al.	11/03/1998	
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		NUMBER	Kind Code (if known)			
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		NUMBER	Kind Code (if known)		
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		6,579,799	B2	Chopra et al.	06/17/2003

OTHER PRIOR ART-NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials*	Cite No.	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.			
	**	KONDO, S. et al., "Abrasive-Free Polishing for Copper Damascene Interconnection", <i>Journal of the Electrochemical Society</i> , 147 (10) 3907-3913 (2000).			

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